

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective immediately prior to noon on Jan. 3, 1971, see section 601(1) of Pub. L. 91-510, set out as an Effective Date of 1970 Amendment note under section 72a of this title.

CROSS REFERENCES

Establishment of Office of Parliamentarian of House of Representatives, see section 287 et seq. of this title.

§ 29a. Early organization of House of Representatives

(a) Caucus or conference for incumbent Members reelected to and Members-elect of ensuing Congress; time and procedure for calling

(1) The majority leader or minority leader of the House of Representatives after consultation with the Speaker may at any time during any even-numbered year call a caucus or conference, to begin on or after the first day of December and conclude on or before the twentieth day of December in such year and to be attended by all incumbent Members of his or her political party who have been reelected to the ensuing Congress and all other Members-elect of such party, for the purpose of taking all steps necessary to achieve the prompt organization of the Members and Members-elect of such party for the ensuing Congress.

(2) If the majority leader or minority leader calls an organizational caucus or conference under paragraph (1), he or she shall file with the Clerk of the House a written notice designating the date upon which the caucus or conference is to convene. As soon as possible after the election of Members to the ensuing Congress, the Clerk shall furnish each Member-elect of the party involved with appropriate written notification of the caucus or conference.

(3) If a vacancy occurs in the office of majority leader or minority leader during any even-numbered year (and has not been filled), the chairman of the caucus or conference of the party involved for the current Congress may call an organizational caucus or conference under paragraph (1) by filing written notice thereof as provided by paragraph (2).

(b) Payment and reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses for Members attending caucus or conference; exceptions; regulations governing payments and reimbursements; reimbursement vouchers

(1)(A) Each Member-elect (other than an incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress) who attends a caucus or conference called under subsection (a) of this section, and each incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress who attends any such caucus or conference convening after the adjournment sine die of the Congress in the year involved, shall be paid for one round trip between his or her place of residence in the district which he or she represents and Washington, District of Columbia, for the purpose of attending such caucus or conference. Payment shall be made through the issuance of a transportation request form to each such Member-elect or incumbent Member by the Finance Office of the House before such caucus or conference.

(B) Each Member-elect (other than an incumbent Member reelected to the ensuing Congress)

who attends a caucus or conference called under subsection (a) of this section shall in addition be reimbursed on a per diem or other basis for expenses incurred in connection with his or her attendance at such caucus or conference for a period not to exceed the shorter of the following—

(i) the period beginning with the day before the designated date upon which such caucus or conference is to convene and ending with the day after the date of the final adjournment of such caucus or conference; or

(ii) fourteen days.

(2) Payments and reimbursements to Members-elect under paragraph (1) shall be made as provided (with respect to Members) in the regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration with respect to travel and other expenses of committees and Members. Reimbursements shall be paid on special voucher forms prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

(c) Availability of House contingent fund

The contingent fund of the House is made available to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Pub. L. 93-554, title I, ch. III, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777.)

CODIFICATION

Section is based on section 202 of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 93-554.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on House Administration of House of Representatives changed to Committee on House Oversight of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 93-554 provided that the enactment of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, into permanent law is effective Jan. 2, 1975.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Finance Office of House of Representatives transferred to Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services by section 7 of House Resolution No. 423, One Hundred Second Congress, Apr. 9, 1992. Director of Non-legislative and Financial Services replaced by Chief Administrative Officer of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Fourth Congress, Jan. 4, 1995.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 43b-2 of this title.

§§ 29b, 29c. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section 29b, based on section 204 of House Resolution No. 988, Ninety-third Congress, Oct. 8, 1974, which was enacted into permanent law, effective Jan. 2, 1975, by Pub. L. 93-554, title I, ch. III, Dec. 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1777, established a Commission on Information and Facilities in House of Representatives to be composed of nine members of the House appointed by Speaker, required Speaker to appoint an Advisory Council to assist Commission in carrying out its functions, required Commission to conduct study of informational problems, facilities and space, and House legislative counsel requirements, provided for the scope of study of informational

problems, and required Commission to make an annual progress report to Speaker, to complete study of House legislative counsel requirements by Jan. 1, 1976, and to submit a final report by Jan. 2, 1977.

Section 29c, based on clause 10, rule I, of the Rules of the House of Representatives as in effect before July 17, 1984, relating to the Office for the Bicentennial for the House of Representatives, established by House Resolution No. 621, Ninety-seventh Congress, Dec. 17, 1982, which was enacted into permanent law by Pub. L. 98-367, title I, §102, July 17, 1984, 98 Stat. 479, established in House of Representatives an Office for the Bicentennial of the House of Representatives to coordinate planning of commemoration of two-hundredth anniversary of House of Representatives and to be staffed by a professional historian appointed by Speaker without regard to political affiliation and solely on basis of fitness to perform duties of the position and to serve at pleasure of Speaker, and provided that the Office cease to exist not later than Sept. 30, 1989, unless otherwise provided by law or resolution. Office of the Historian of the House of Representatives was established by clause 10, rule I, of the Rules of the House of Representatives, as added on Jan. 3, 1989 (H. Res. 5, 101st Congress).

§ 29d. Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of House of Representatives

(a) Omitted

(b) Committee composition

The respective party caucus or conference of the House of Representatives shall each nominate to the House of Representatives at the beginning of each Congress 7 members to serve on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

(c) Investigative subcommittees

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct shall adopt rules providing—

- (1) for the establishment of a 4 or 6-member investigative subcommittee (with equal representation from the majority and minority parties) whenever the committee votes to undertake any investigation;
- (2) that the senior majority and minority members on an investigative subcommittee shall serve as the chairman and ranking minority member of the subcommittee; and
- (3) that the chairman and ranking minority member of the full committee may only serve as non-voting, ex officio members on an investigative subcommittee.

Clause 5(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall not apply to any investigative subcommittee.

(d) Adjudicatory subcommittees

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct shall adopt rules providing—

- (1) that upon the completion of an investigation, an investigative subcommittee shall report its findings and recommendations to the committee;
- (2) that, if an investigative subcommittee by majority vote of its membership adopts a statement of alleged violation, the remaining members of the committee shall comprise an adjudicatory subcommittee to hold a disciplinary hearing on the violation alleged in the statement;
- (3) that any statement of alleged violation and any written response thereto shall be made public at the first meeting or hearing on

the matter which is open to the public after the respondent has been given full opportunity to respond to the statement in accordance with committee rules, but, if no public hearing or meeting is held on the matter, the statement of alleged violation and any written response thereto shall be included in the committee's final report to the House of Representatives as required by clause 4(e)(1)(B) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives;

(4) that a quorum for an adjudicatory subcommittee for the purpose of taking testimony and conducting any business shall consist of a majority of the membership of the subcommittee plus one; and

(5) that an adjudicatory subcommittee shall determine, after receiving evidence, whether the counts in the statement have been proved and shall report its findings to the committee.

Clause 5(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall not apply to any adjudicatory subcommittee.

(e) to (h) Omitted

(i) Advice and education

(1) The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct shall establish within the committee an Office on Advice and Education (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as the "Office") under the supervision of the chairman.

(2) The Office shall be headed by a director who shall be appointed by the chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, and shall be comprised of such staff as the chairman determines is necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Office.

(3) The primary responsibilities of the Office shall include:

(A) Providing information and guidance to Members, officers and employees of the House regarding any laws, rules, regulations, and other standards of conduct applicable to such individuals in their official capacities, and any interpretations and advisory opinions of the committee.

(B) Submitting to the chairman and ranking minority member of the committee any written request from any such Member, officer or employee for an interpretation of applicable laws, rules, regulations, or other standards of conduct, together with any recommendations thereon.

(C) Recommending to the committee for its consideration formal advisory opinions of general applicability.

(D) Developing and carrying out, subject to the approval of the chairman, periodic educational briefings for Members, officers and employees of the House on those laws, rules, regulations, or other standards of conduct applicable to them.

(4) No information provided to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct by a Member, officer or employee of the House of Representatives when seeking advice regarding prospective conduct of such Member, officer or employee may be used as the basis for initiating an investigation under clause 4(e)(1)(B) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, if such